

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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TAGS: OEXC, SU, CG, ZA, LT, BC

SUBJECT: CU/FY-76 AMERICAN STUDENT PROGRAM

REF: STATE 020016

1. WHILE POST AGREES WITH TENOR OF REFTEL STRESSING MUTUALITY UNDER AMERICAN STUDENT PROGRAM, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNWISE BOTH POLITICALLY AND PRACTICALLY TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH AN ACADEMIC YEAR PROGRAM ANY TIME IN NEAR FUTURE IN ZAIRE.

2. POST VIEWS CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION AS AT LEAST NOT CONDUCIVE, IF NOT COMPLETELY ANTIPATHETIC, TOWARD IDEAL OF MUTUALITY. SUSPICION OF FOREIGNERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO MAY INADVERTENTLY OFFER CRITICISM OR EVEN SIMPLE COMPARISON WITH MORE DEMOCRATIC STATES, IS PRESENTLY HIGH AND WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE GROWING.

3. ON PRACTICAL SIDE, THERE IS LITTLE UNZA COULD OFFER A SERIOUS AMERICAN GRADUATE STUDENT. ONE MUST BE FLUENT IN FRENCH, BE PREPARED TO PUT UP WITH ABYSMAL HOUSING CONDITIONS, AND WILLING BRING ALL BOOKS FROM THE STATES, AS LIBRARY IS INCOMPLETE AND POORLY SERVICED AND ACADEMIC BOOKSTORE NONEXISTENT.

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4. AMBASSADOR'S NOTE: WITH GREAT RELUCTANCE I ENDORSE
STAFF POSITION SET FORTH ABOVE. I WISH THAT A WAY
COULD BE FOUND TO PARTICIPATE BUT AS OF NOW CASE
AGAINST IS STRONG AND IDEA OF CIRCULATING BROCHURE
GIVING OBJECTIVE PICTURE OF EXCHWWGE ENVIRONMENT HERE
IS QUITE IMPOSSIBLE. COULD ZAIRE BE MENTIONED AS
POSSIBLE COUNTRY WITHOUT GIVING DETAILS AND ANY
INTERESTED CANDIDATES FULLY BRIEFED ORALLY ON WHAT
THEY WOULD BE UP AGAINST? IF SO, WE'LL EXPLORE WITH
UNIVERSITY AND PROVIDE DETAILED ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
RAISED PARA 2 REFTEL.
HINTON

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